

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 2852
Examiner: Unassigned



In re PATENT APPLICATION of

Applicant : Masahiro FUKUDA et al)

Appl. No. : 10/648,397)

Filed : August 27, 2003)

For : IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS)

Atty. Dkt. : MAE 294)

**INFORMATION
DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT**

March 3, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

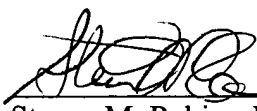
This is an information disclosure statement submitted in compliance with the timing requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), i.e., prior to a first Office Action on the merits.

Copies of five documents, a European Search Report mailed December 16, 2003, in which the documents were cited, and a Form PTO-1449 listing the documents are submitted herewith. The relevance of the publications may be gleaned from the English-language abstracts. The publications are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449.

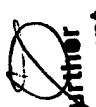
Since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before a first Office Action, no certification or fee is required, and the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98 are deemed to be fully met as to all documents submitted. Consideration of the submitted documents respectfully is requested.

Should any fee be required, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 18-0002 and advise us accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,


Steven M. Rabin - Reg. No. 29,102
RABIN & BERDO, P.C.
Telephone: (202) 371-8976
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CUSTOMER NO. 23995

March 3, 2004
Date


FEE ENCLOSED:\$
Please charge any further
fee to our Deposit Account
No. 18-0002

SMR:tlc

FORM PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Atty. Docket

MAE 294

Application No.

10/648,397

Applicant

Masahiro FUKUDA et al

Filing Date

August 27, 2003

Group

2852

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date
	AA	5,517,283	5/14/96	HORI et al			5/19/93
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub-Class	Translation
	AI	2002-131997	5/9/02	JAPAN			Abstract
	AJ	2000-081739	3/21/00	JAPAN			Abstract
	AK	05-164694	6/29/93	JAPAN			Abstract
	AL	2002-031919	1/31/02	JAPAN			Abstract
	AM	EP 0 314 536	9/30/88	EP			
	AN						

OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	AO	
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Examiner

Date Considered

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

